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ST. NEOTS

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1962

ST NEOTS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT.

for the year ended 31st December, 1962.

Mr Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the District for the year 1962.

The marked increase in the population which was evident last year has continued in 1962 with an average of nearly 300 inhabitants having been added to the Town in each year.

Most of the new families coming into the Town belong to the younger age groups and consequently have contributed this year to a substantial rise in the Birth Rate of some three per 1,000 population over last year's figure and is now well above the National average.

This trend bears out the justification for the approach to the Regional Hospital Board made by the Council for improved Maternity Facilities and it is unfortunate that the case has not been accepted by the Authority in their long term plans. The proposed provision of sixteen maternity beds instead of ten as at present at Huntingdon, seems inadequate to deal with the population increase which is taking place in these areas.

The Death Rate shows a somewhat upward trend compared with last year but is still well below the figure for England and Wales as a whole and for the County of Huntingdon generally. A pleasing feature to note in this year's statistics is the complete absence of Still Births - a situation which has not occurred in the last five years. Despite the increased Birth Rate the Infant Mortality is also less than it has been since 1959.

The District shared in the widespread outbreak of measles which occurred in the second quarter of the year and accounted for some 85% of the Notifiable Infectious Disease.

The Council's plans to ensure that services keep pace with the increasing requirements arising from the development of the Town have gone ahead satisfactorily.

In conclusion, I should like to thank members of the Council for their kindness and consideration to me during the past year and all Officers for their kind help and co-operation.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

J.CALDWELL.

Medical Officer of Health.

S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health.

J.CALDWELL LRCP & S (ED)., LRFP & S (GL)
D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector.

R.PULFORD. Cert.SIB., MAPHI (left June, 1962)
R.A.OSTLER. Cert.SIB., MAPHI (appointed July, 1962)

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area: 1,391	St Neots 996	Eynesbury	395
Estimated population	Mid: 1961 5,720	Mid: 1962	5,990

Private Houses	1943
Shops etc with private houses attached	69

Rateable value

As at 31st December, 1962:	£90,489
Product of a penny rate :	£368

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births	M	F	Total
Legitimate	58	61	119
Illegitimate	3	-	3
Total	61	61	122
Still Births			
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Deaths			
All ages	24	34	59

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	20.4
Comparability Factor	.99
Corrected Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	20.2
(Ditto for England and Wales)	18.0
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	Nil
(ditto for England and Wales)	18.1
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	9.8
Comparability Factor	.98
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	9.7
(Ditto for England and Wales)	11.9

The following table indicates the trends in the Birth and Death rates for the District over the past five years and compares them with those for the County of Huntingdon and for England and Wales.

	Birth Rate					Death Rate.				
	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
St Neots U.D.C.	17.8	18.7	17.8	17.3	20.2	10.5	9.4	10.5	8.2	9.7
County of Huntingdon	19.8	19.6	19.7	20.6	21.6	10.1	10.1	10.6	10.1	10.4
England and Wales	16.4	16.5	17.1	17.4	18.0	11.7	11.6	11.5	12.0	11.9

Deaths of infants under 1 year.

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	-	1	1

Death rates of Infants under 1 year.

All infants per 1,000 live births 8.2
(Ditto for England and Wales) 20.7

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(a) Laboratory Facilities.
The following Laboratory facilities have been available to this Authority and to General Practitioners in this area:

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road. Cambridge. (Tel: Cambridge 55526)

Public Analyst (S.Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C.) Tennison Road, Cambridge. (Tel: Cambridge 2097.)

(b) Ambulance Service.
Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service, operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service, have been available on Doctor's orders. Tel: Huntingdon 348.

(c) Home Nursing.
Two Nurse/Midwives living in St Neots (Tel: St Neots 215 and St Neots 725) employed and supervised by the Huntingdon County
C Council, carried out Home Nursing and attended Maternity Cases in the district.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.
(i) The following Health Services were provided by the Huntingdon County Council:

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held.
Minor Ailments	Schoolchildren	1st Thursday in month 10.30 -11.30 a.m.	The Clinic. Almond Rd. St Neots.
Infant Welfare	Children (0-5 years)	Every Thursday. 2-4 p.m.	-ditto-
Dental	Pre-school and schoolchildren	Every Tuesday and Thursday 9 a.m- 12 noon	-ditto-
	Pre-natal and Nursing mothers	1.30-4.30 p.m.	

(ii) The following Health Services are provided by the Regional Hospital Board:

Clinic	Patients Seen	When held	Where held.
Chest	All Ages	Every Thursday 10-12 noon	County Hospital Huntingdon
Veneral Diseases	All cases	Tuesday 3-6.30 p.m. Thursday 4-6.30 p.m	Addenbrooke's Hospital. Cambridge.
	Males	Monday 4.30-6.30 p.m Tuesday 5.30-7 p.m	Out-Patients Dept Memorial Hospital Peterborough
	Females and Children	Tuesday 10.30-12.30 Thursday 4.30-6.30 p.m	
Orthopaedic	Pre-School and Schoolchildren	1st and 3rd Monday in each month (Sister) 10 a.m.-12 noon	The Clinic. Almond Road. St Neots

(iii) The following service is provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National Health Service:

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held.
Ophthalmic	Pre-school and Schoolchildren	1st and 3rd Friday in each month 10.30 a.m. -12 noon. 2-3 p.m.	New Health Clinic Nursery Road. Huntingdon

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Paediatric, Skin, Obstetrical, Gynaecological and Dental out-patients Clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

Hospital Services.

Fever Cases of infectious diseases requiring hospital treatment were admitted to Isolation Hospitals at Cambridge, Peterborough or Ely.

General Hospital Services were provided by the County Hospital Huntingdon and Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases were admitted to Primrose Lane Maternity Hospital, Huntingdon and to Mill Road, Cambridge.

ST NEOTS URBAN DISTRICT

CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	Total Cases Notified
Scarlet Fever	15
Whooping Cough	1
Diphtheria	-
Measles	135
Acute Pneumonia	6
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Typhoid Fever	-
Erysipelas	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-
Infective Hepatitis	-
Food Poisoning	1
Dysentery	-
Total	158

Causes of Deaths

(Registrar General's List)

List No	Cause	Male	Female.
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2	Tuberculosis other	-	-
3	Syphilitic disease	-	1
4	Diphtheria	-	-
5	Whooping cough	-	-
6	Meningococcal infections	-	-
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8	Measles	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	1
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	3	-
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	2
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
16	Diabetes	1	-
17	Vascular lesions of the nervous system	2	7
18	Coronary disease, angina	5	3
19	Hypertension with heart disease	-	1
20	Other heart disease	1	3
21	Other circulatory disease	2	1
22	Influenza	-	2
23	Pneumonia	2	4
24	Bronchitis	1	1
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31	Congenital malformations	-	1
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	-	3
33	Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
34	All other accidents	-	2
35	Suicide	1	-
36	Homicide and operations of war	-	-
	Total all causes	25	34

ST NEOTS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

TUBERCULOSIS

Total number on Register at 31st December, 1962 14

Pulmonary ..... 13 Non-pulmonary 1

Age Periods	New Cases - Diagnosed Respiratory M	F	Non-Respiratory M	F	New Cases - Transfers Respiratory M	F	Non-Respiratory M	F
0 ...								
1 ...								
5 ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 ...								
20 ...	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
25 ...								
35 ...	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
45 ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 ...								
65 and upwards								
Totals	2	1	-	-	-	2	-	-

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, in connection with persons suffering from tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

To the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting an Annual Report of the work of my predecessor, Mr R.Pulford and myself.

When I took up my appointment in July, 1962 the long-sustained attempt to maintain a 100% inspection of meat at the local abattoir had produced a most difficult situation as slaughtering had increased by 12% over the preceeding year.

A recent analysis of the work of meat inspectors at six of the largest abattoirs in England showed an average of 120,000 inspection units per man-year. When it is considered that we inspected a total of over 150,000 inspection units during 1962 without assistance, it will be clear that only with the greatest of difficulty could time be made available for other duties. Office records were inadequate, and it was impossible to give sufficient attention to important routine inspections.

Various attempts were made during the year to obtain part-time assistance from other authorities, but these were unsuccessful.

Towards the end of the year, the Government announced the intention of making Regulations to require the inspection and marking of all meat by local authorities. It therefore, seemed an inappropriate time for curtailment of the 100% meat inspection policy; a course which I should otherwise have been compelled to advocate.

In these circumstances the necessity for appointment of a full-time assistant was finally accepted, and this was under active consideration at the end of the year.

While delay in commencement of the second 5-year scheme of Slum Clearance has been unavoidable, I am glad to report that a beginning has been made with the

representation of a Clearance Area including six houses.

In conclusion I would like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their support and to yourself and other officers of the Council for the help and co-operation I have received.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant.

R.A.OSTLER.

Public Health Inspector.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Visits and Inspections made during 1962.

Public Health Act.

Houses inspected for nuisances (including revisits)	... 13
Verminous premises and revisits	... 2
Infectious disease inquiries.	... 7
Tents, vans, sheds and moveable dwellings	... 7
Atmospheric Pollution	... 26
Streams and Watercourses	... -
Keeping of animals	... -
Offensive Trades	... -
Water supply - including sampling	... 10
Public Conveniences	... 1
Licensed Premises	... 1
Schools	... -
Drainage	... 1
Swimming Pool	... 5
Insect Pests - destruction	... 8

Housing Act.

Houses inspected - including revisits	... 24
Miscellaneous Housing	... 29
Overcrowding.	... 1

Rent Act.

Disrepair inspections and revisits	... 16

Factory Act.

Factories and workplaces inspected.	... 17
Outworkers premises visited.	... -

Food and Drugs Act.

Bakehouses	... 5
Bakers and Confectioners	... 1
Grocers	... 26
Greengrocers and Fruiterers.	... 8
Fishmongers and Poulterers	... 4
Fried Fish Shops	... 1
Food Preparing Premises	... 25
Licensed Premises and Hotels	... 4
Markets and Stalls	... 92
Ice Cream Premises	... 41
Restaurants and Cafes	... 9
Dairies - including sampling visits	... 11
Butchers	... 21
Schools - canteens	... 3
Miscellaneous Food Inspection	... 32
Ice Cream Samples	... 29
Milk Samples	... 20
Meat Inspections - Visits to Abattoir	...619
Street Vendors	... 7

Miscellaneous.

Pet Animals Act.	... 3
Noise Abatement	... 5
Rodent Control	... 34
Shops Act.	... 67
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	... 59
Interviews	... 52
Total visits and inspections made	1,346.

Notices served and complied with 1962.

Type of Notice	Served	Complied with	Outstanding end of 1961
Public Health Act - informal	14	10	6
formal	-	-	-
Housing Act - informal	-	-	-
formal	1	1	-
Factories Act - informal	-	1	-
formal	-	-	-
Food and Drugs Act- informal	7	3	4
formal	-	-	-
Noise Abatement Act - informal	2	2	-
formal	-	-	-
Clean Air Act - formal	1		

Rent Act.

Application for Certificates of Disrepair	...	Nil
Certificates of Disrepair issued	...	Nil
Defects remedied	...	Nil
Applications for cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair	...	6
Applications granted	...	Nil

LICENCES ISSUED.

Slaughter of Animals Act.		
Slaughterman's Licences	...	8
Game Act, 1931		
Game Dealers	...	5
Food and Drugs Act.		
Registrations to date for storage and sale of ice cream and manufacture of meat products	....	32
Pet Animals Act.		
Licences	...	2
Slaughterhouses Act (Private Abattoir)	...	1

INFORMAL FOOD - SAMPLES.

Ice Cream.

25 samples of ice cream were taken during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Cambridge.

Grade 1 - Satisfactory	.....	21 samples.
Grade 2 - Satisfactory	.....	4 samples.
Grade 3 - Unsatisfactory	.....	Nil
Grade 4 - Unsatisfactory	.....	Nil

Water Ice.

10 samples were taken, all being satisfactory.

Milk.

20 samples of milk were taken from 3 dealers in the town as follows:

T.T.Pasteurised	.....	10	.....	All satisfactory.
Pasteurised	.....	10	.....	All satisfactory.

In two cases the methylene blue test was void due to the permissable atmospheric shade temperature being exceeded.

Water.

A total of 10 water samples were taken as follows:

From Town mains	.....	9	.....	Satisfactory.
From Swimming Pool	.....	1	.....	Satisfactory.

For the third year in succession, it is very gratifying to report the complete absence of any bad samples.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

The following table shows the number of animals killed and inspected during 1962. The figures in brackets indicate the comparative figures for 1961.

Cattle.	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
2,960	31	19,517	28,665	51,173
(3,345)	(62)	(23,133)	(18,987)	(45,527)

The total shows an increase of 12½% over 1961. This is due to a very considerable increase of 51% in the number of pigs, other categories showing a decrease.

Animals affected by disease or injury and condemnations.

Tuberculosis only	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs.
Whole carcase	1	1	-	-	-
Part or organ	-	-	-	-	340
Percentage affected	.04%	4%	-	-	1%

Other diseases and causes.					
Whole carcase	3	1	1	2	47
Part or organ	444	4	-	219	3,620
Percentage affected	15%	20%	3%	1%	13%

Cysticercosis	
Part or organ condemned	23
Carcases to Cold Store	6
Generalised	-

— not applicable. —

By submission of samples for bacteriological examination, an attempt was made to seek the cause of a high incidence of liver abscess in intensively-reared cattle, but the results obtained were inconclusive.

Two isolated cases of swine fever were discovered in July and September. In each case the Ministry was informed, the disease confirmed and thorough disinfection of the premises was carried out.

ABATTOIR - WEIGHTS OF CONDEMNATIONS.

	Tons	Cwt.	Qr.	Lb.
Offal	6	3	3	8
Beef	1	14	2	17
Veal			1	20
Mutton			5	5
Pork	4	10	2	25
	12	10	3	19

Other unsound foods - surrender aceepted.

470 Tins Fruit.
123 Tins Vegetables.
14 Tins Milk.
13 Tins Fish
12 Tins Meat.
113 lbs Pork.
130 lbs Bacon
6 chickens
150 lbs Imported Beef.

FOOD PREMISES.

Sweets and Confectionary	...	4
General Stores	...	32
Fishmongers	...	2
Dairies	...	2
Butchers	...	9
Bakeries	...	4
Hotels	...	5
Restaurants	...	7
Fish Friers	...	2
Mobile Fish Frier's Premises	...	1
Public Houses	...	33
Greengrocers	...	5
Ice Cream Premises	...	28
Pie Manufacturers	...	1
Malsters	...	1
Flour Mill	...	1

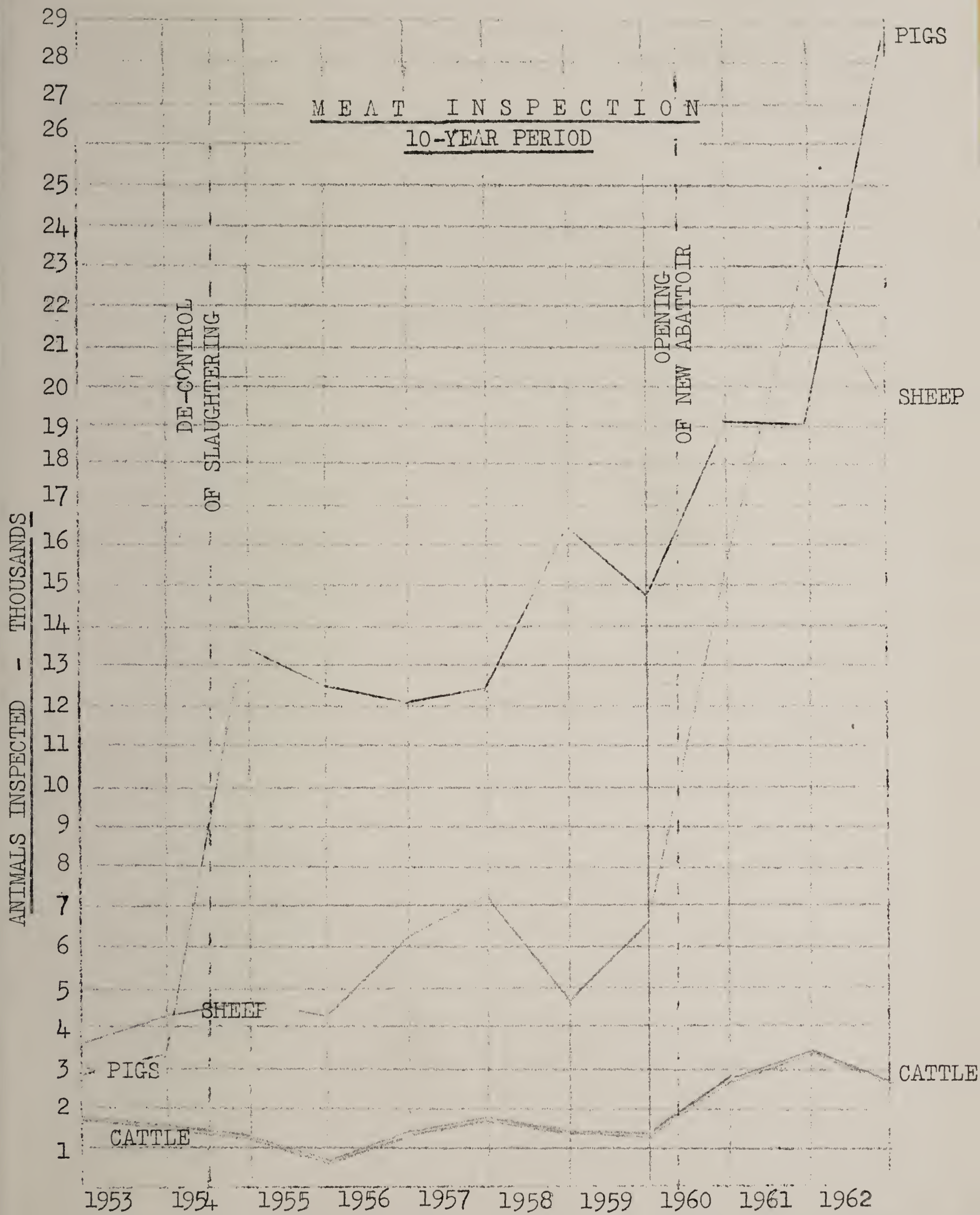
Factories in Register.

With Mechanical Power	...	55
Work Places.	...	9

Rodent Control

The following include visits made by both the Public Health Inspector and Rodent Operative.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Business & others	Agricultural	Total
Inspections & re-inspections	226	461	158	67	912
Major rat infestations	-	-	-	-	-
Minor rat infestations	9	76	10	8	103
Mice infestations	-	11	15	-	26


MEAT INSPECTION
10-YEAR PERIOD
ANIMALS INSPECTED - THOUSANDS
29
28
27
26
25
24
23
22
21
20
19
18
17
16
15
14
13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
DE-CONTROL OF SLAUGHTERING
OPENING OF NEW ABATTOIR
PIGS
SHEEP
CATTLE
SHEEP
PIGS
CATTLE
1953
1954
1955
1956
1957
1958
1959
1960
1961
1962